

Amendments to the Specification

On page 1, please amend the first paragraph, following the title of the invention, as follows:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO PRIOR ~~PROVISIONAL~~ APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/537,862, filed March 28, 2000, which corresponds to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/127,229, filed March 31, 1999.

On page 8, please amend the last two paragraphs as follows:

Figure 9 provides a drawing based on a photograph of a prototype system made according to the present invention.

Figure 10 provides a drawing based on a photograph of a portable shearography unit, made according to the present invention, and being used to examine a test object.